

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/649,534

Examiner

Sameh H. Tawfik

Applicant(s)

FORTE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,7,8 and 11-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

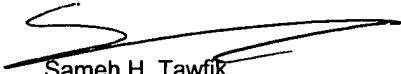
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 08192004 .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Sameh H. Tawfik
Patent Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John Lister on 01/14/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:
cancel claims 4-6 and 20-24.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the claimed apparatus as amended and supported by the reasons provided in the remarks of the amendment filed on 12/16/2004. In particular, the prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed blanket-packaging machine comprising in combination vertical insulation blanket moving means for successively elevating groupings of one or more insulation blankets (Fig. 3; bats 202) at a time in a vertical direction from the blanket loading station 24 up through the transfer station 26 into compression station 28 while simultaneously permitting insulation blankets 202 to be fed into the loading station 24.

Regarding claim 7: the prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed blanket-packaging machine comprising in combination the vertical batt moving means successively moving batts from the batt loading station (Fig. 3; loading station 24) into the transfer and batt stacking station 26 until a first selected number of batts 202 that is one less than a second selected number of

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batts to be formed into the batt stack 204 in the transfer and stacking station 26; the vertical batt moving means being deactivated once the first selected number of batts has been moved into the transfer and stacking station 26; the vertical batt stack moving means being activated to move a single batt 202 from the batt loading station into the transfer and batt stacking station completing the formation of the batt stack 204 in the transfer and stacking station 26 and move the batt stack 204 into the batt compression station 28 when the vertical batt moving means is deactivated; and the vertical batt moving means being reactivated to again successively move batts from the batt loading station 24 into the transfer and batt stacking station 26 once the vertical batt moving means has moved the single batt into the transfer and stacking station from the batt loading station to complete the formation of the batt stack in the transfer and stacking station, see Fig. 3. In other words feeding the batt stack 204 from the transfer and stacking station 26 to the compression station 28 at the mean while moving batt 202 from the loading station 24 to the stacking station 26.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sameh H. Tawfik whose telephone number is 571-272-4470. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on 571-272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sameh H. Tawfik
Patent Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sameh H. Tawfik', written over a horizontal line.

ST.